

Town of Lunenburg

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
P.O. Box 135
Lunenburg, MA 01462-0135



Jeffrey Mendoza, Chairman
Garrett Stillman, Vice-Chairman
Maureen Dupuis, Clerk
Douglas MacMillan, Member
Renee Trakimas, Member

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION **March 17, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Posted: Yes
Place: The Ritter Building
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Present: J. Mendoza, G. Stillman, D. MacMillan, R. Trakimas, M. Dupuis.

Minutes Approval: Motion to approve by D. MacMillan, second by R. Traikimas. February 18, 2016 minutes approved.

A draft of proposed amendments to the Lunenburg protective bylaw, as discussed by the commission at the March 3, 2016 Bylaw Revision Workshop, was presented for review and approval. D. MacMillan motioned to approve the draft and to submit to the Town Manager. R. Traikimas seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

At their March 8th meeting, the BoS gave unanimous approval of the plan to move forward in posting RTF signs, as soon as the weather is accommodating to the task.

The Lunenburg Farmers' Market has received notification of membership renewal to Mass Farmers' Markets for a fee of \$120. With a motion made by D. MacMillan and seconded by G. Stillman, the commission voted unanimously to renew the membership which provides publicity to our market as well as trainings and resources for market management.

A small discussion regarding the keeping of bees began with the announcement that, as backyard bee keeping is becoming increasingly popular, it is important to recognize a few key points:

- Bee keeping in Lunenburg requires no special permit
- Some farmers do their spray crops, owners of hives within close proximity to such fields should speak with their farmer so as to better prepare for the health of their hives (i.e., covering hives during spraying)
- The town of Lunenburg offers mosquito spraying – bee keepers should be aware of these spraying times as well

For further understanding and education, the commission will work to bring a bee keeping program to the community.

M. Dupuis reported on her attendance at the annual meeting of the Mass Association of Ag Commissions. Educational workshops on topics including Avian Influenza and GMOs in agriculture were presented in addition to the business meeting. The commissions voted to support the Legislative White Papers for Ag Day at the State House April 5th 2016.

The next meeting of the Agricultural Commission was scheduled for Thursday April 21, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen C. Dupuis